

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS ENJOYED THE LOYALTY OF THE UNITED STATES CITIZENS OF GUAM, AND THAT THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR AS AN OPPORTUNE TIME FOR CONGRESS TO REAFFIRM ITS COMMITMENT TO INCREASE SELF-GOVERNMENT CONSISTENT WITH SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF GUAM

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SEPTEMBER 28, 1998.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

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Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, from the Committee on Resources,  
submitted the following

## REPORT

[To accompany H. Res. 494]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Resources, to whom was referred the resolution (H. Res. 494) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States has enjoyed the loyalty of the United States citizens of Guam, and that the United States recognizes the centennial anniversary of the Spanish-American War as an opportune time for Congress to reaffirm its commitment to increase self-government consistent with self-determination for the people of Guam, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the resolution be agreed to.

### PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H. Res. 494 is to express the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States has enjoyed the loyalty of the United States citizens of Guam, and that the United States recognizes the centennial anniversary of the Spanish-American War as an opportune time for Congress to reaffirm its commitment to increase self-government consistent with self-determination for the people of Guam.

## BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

It has been 100 years since the United States raised the first American flag over Guam on July 21, 1898. The islands were transferred to the United States after the Spanish-American War pursuant to the Treaty of Paris. Article IX of the Treaty states that, "The civil rights and political status of the native inhabitants of the territories hereby ceded to the United States shall be determined by the Congress."

Guam was administered by the United States Navy until forced to surrender the island in 1941 to the invading forces of Japan. During the occupation from 1941 to 1944, the people of Guam remained staunchly loyal to the United States, risking torture and death, and subject to forced labor, ruthless executions, and other brutalities. The island was returned to U.S. Naval jurisdiction after the liberation of the people of Guam in 1944.

As an unincorporated territory of the United States, Guam's relationship with the United States has been characterized by Guam's political development from an island administered by the U.S. Department of the Navy to one governed by the people of Guam under the Guam Organic Act approved by Congress in 1950 as Public Law 630. In that same Act, Congress extended U.S. citizenship to the people of Guam. Subsequently, Congress expanded Guam's self-governance by authorizing the direct election of the governor, representation in the House of Representatives by a delegate, and authorizing constitutional self-government. Today, the people of Guam continue their quest for increased self-government within the United States community. The resolution will serve as recognition of Guam's 100 years of loyalty and service to the United States and calls on the House of Representatives to reaffirm its commitment to the people of Guam for increased self-government.

## COMMITTEE ACTION

H. Res. 494 was introduced on June 24, 1998, by Delegate Robert Underwood (D-GU). The bill was referred to the Committee on Resources. Previously, on October 29, 1997, the Committee held a hearing on Guam's self-government (Committee on Resources Printing Hearing 105-78). Numerous witnesses from Guam testified in support of increased self-government for Guam within the U.S. community, often citing Guam's century-long record of loyalty and service to the Nation. On July 29, 1998, the Full Resources Committee met to consider H. Res. 494. No amendments were offered and the bill was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by voice vote.

## COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

With respect to the requirements of clause 2(1)(3) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, and clause 2(b)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Article IV, section 3 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact H. Res. 494.

COST OF THE LEGISLATION

Clause 7(a) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison by the Committee of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out H. Res. 494. However, clause 7(d) of that rule provides that this requirement does not apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XI

1. With respect to the requirement of clause 2(l)(3)(B) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, H. Res. 494 does not contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures.

2. With respect to the requirement of clause 2(l)(3)(D) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee has received no report of oversight findings and recommendations from the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight on the subject of H. Res. 494.

3. With respect to the requirement of clause 2(l)(3)(C) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for H. Res. 494 from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

U.S. CONGRESS,  
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,  
*Washington, DC, September 24, 1998.*

Hon. DON YOUNG,  
*Chairman, Committee on Resources,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H. Res. 494, a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States has enjoyed the loyalty of the United States citizens of Guam, and that the United States recognizes the centennial anniversary of the Spanish-American War as an opportune time for Congress to reaffirm its commitment to increase self-government consistent with self-determination for the people of Guam.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is John R. Righter.

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL, *Director.*

Enclosure.

*H. Res. 494—A Resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States has enjoyed the loyalty of the United States citizens of Guam*

H. Res. 494 would recognize the territory of Guam for 100 years of loyalty and service to the United States. CBO estimates that passage of H. Res. 494 would have no budgetary impact. The resolution would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

The CBO staff contact is John R. Righter. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104-4

H. Res. 494 contains no unfunded mandates.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

H. Res. 494 would make no changes in existing law.

